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M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

.....of the.....

POCKLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

F O R 1 9 4 5

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To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL of POCKLINGTON.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

As Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Pocklington, I beg to submit to you the following report for the year ended December 31st. 1945.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND CHARACTER AND GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The Pocklington Rural District is situated in the East Riding of Yorkshire, having York to the West and Great Driffield and Beverley to the East. It comprises 31 parishes, the total area of which is 101,521 acres, or 158 square miles. The total population at the census of 1931 was 12,723; estimated at midsummer 1941 13,360. The number of inhabited houses is 3,759 and the number of families or separate occupiers is 3,759 (normally). The assessable value is £44,088 the sum represented by a penny rate being £183. 14. 0.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The District is almost entirely agricultural, and the chief occupations are in connection with that industry.

The 31 parishes comprising the District also form the area of the Pocklington Guardians Committee. The ordinary cases of illness amongst the poor are treated in the Public Assistance Institution, cases requiring hospital treatment being sent to the Hull Royal Infirmary or York County Hospital.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1945.

		Total.	M.	F.
Births	Births (Legitimate)... ...	120	60	60
Deaths	Deaths	175	96	79

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth. (From Sepsis....0
(From other causes.....0

Death of infants under 1 year of age:-
Legitimate....2 Illegitimate....1
Total.....3

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages).....1
" " Diarrhoea (Gastric Enteritis) under 2 years of age.....1
" " Cancer (all ages) M..13 F..13
Total.....26

Prevalence of, and control over, infectious and other diseases.

The number of cases notified during the year was 77 as compared with 71 in the previous year.

Disease	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria.....	3	-	-
Scarlet fever.....	52	47	-
Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid)...	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever.....	-	-	-
Pneumonia.....	5	-	19
Erysipelas.....	9	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	-	-	-
Polio Encephalitis.....	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.....	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	2	-	
Tuberculosis (a) Pulmonary (M.....2..... (F.....1..... (Total...3.....	3	-	2
(b) Non Pulmonary (M.....-..... (F.....3..... (Total...3.....	3	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	-	-	-

The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was 2 and the number notified was 6. The cases of Tuberculosis are usually always notified but if not it is generally where a case is rapidly moved for sanitorium treatment, cases notified in previous years, or where a resident of the District dies outside the District.

In regard to number of deaths from pneumonia and the number notified it would appear that some practitioners are not notifying all the cases which come under their care.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS

Laboratory Work.

Medical men in the District can have bacteriological examinations made free of charge. The Council supply diphtheria antitoxin to any practitioners in the District who require it.

During the year 65 bacteriological examinations were made.

Fever

There is no fever hospital in the District, but the County provide an Isolation Hospital for the District at Driffield, which has accommodation for 62 beds.

Ambulance Facilities for infectious cases.

A motor ambulance is provided from the Driffield Isolation Hospital by the County Authorities.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The whole of the District with the exception of Goodmanham and Market Weighton, Pocklington and Londesborough is supplied by the Regional Scheme from the springs in the chalk wolds. The supply is pure and abundant and is adequately protected from every source of pollution. The excepted villages have their own supplies. Chlorination is still being carried out at the

springs. The weekly consumption of water including that supplied to other Districts is about two and a half million gallons.

Satisfactory results have been obtained on the examination of bacteriological and chemical analyses. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

Every village in the District has a mains water supply and the only houses not supplied are isolated farmhouses and cottages and, during the year, the Council considered these and approved schemes for extending the mains to within striking distance of every occupied dwelling. No scheme had been approved by the year end. About 3200 houses are suppled leaving about 559 mostly isolated buildings still dependant on other means. Many farmers fetch drinking water from the nearest main and use well water only for washing purposes.

In the more populated villages stand pipes are in use which are common to a block of houses but wherever the size of the house permits the Council encourages the installation of a scullery sink with water laid thereto. But for the war the installation of hot water with baths and indoor sanitation would have gone on apace and many sought authority to proceed with this work during the year.

Forty five new connections have been made during the year.

Salvage

A salvage of waste scheme was put into operation in the early part of 1940 and during this year 40 tons of salvage were collected and disposed of for £274. This is a decrease on previous years partly because certain items were no longer required by the Country. Tins and small scrap went first and scrap rubber followed and gradually item after item faded out as salvage but became prominent throughout the District as refuse. The result of this was that a refuse collection scheme gradually evolved and towards the year end more refuse than salvage was being collected and disposed of.

Sanitary Administration

Dwelling houses inspected including Housing Survey	400
Dwelling houses Notices served (preliminary)	62
New Houses built	-
Have building bye-laws been adopted	yes
Dwelling houses disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious disease	77
Dwelling houses disinfected after cases of Phthisis	All
Schools disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious disease	2
Dwelling houses found overcrowded	Many
" " Newly drained	6
" " Redrained	4
Privies converted to W.C.'s	5
" " " pail closets	-
Offensive trades inspected	-
Total number of nuisances found	50
" " " " abated	50

Some overcrowding in dwellinghouses must be acknowledged owing to circumstances.

Water supplies -
Houses newly supplied from water mains..... 47
Samples of water sent for examination..... 8

Dairies and Cowsheds -
Number of dairies and cowshedson register.....670
Number of cows.....2700
Visits to cowsheds and dairies.....216
Defects remedied..... 30

Common Lodging Houses -
Number on register..... 1
Visits to..... 3

General inspection of the district.

The general inspection of premises, occupations etc., coming under the control of the Council is on a much larger scale than indicated by the figures. Many surprise inspections and visits are made and unless any special incident arises therefrom are not recorded.

Housing

The Council adopted a Post war plan of 500 houses, a sewerage scheme for every village, the extensions of the water mains to every habitable dwelling and a refuse collection and disposal scheme. Building of new houses commenced in November.

Factories Act.

About 50 factories employ a number of hands. The remainder chiefly consist of one man businesses and number 105. The general cleanliness is satisfactory.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the area on which Rag Flock is manufactured.

Schools.

These are inspected periodically. Every school is connected with the Regional or other water scheme.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-
Total.....-
(a) By local authority.....-
(b) By private enterprise.....-

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply

Frequent inspections are made of cowsheds and dairies.

Action regarding tubercular Milk or cattle consists of reporting suspected cows to the Veterinary Officer of the County Council.

No licence has been granted in the District for the sale of milk under any special designation and no refusal or revocation of registration has occurred.

Milk and Dairies Order 1926.

Registrations under the Order at the end of the year numbered 662.

Each registration form sent is accompanied by a leaflet which sets out at length the provisions of the Order.

The War Agricultural Executive Committee through their Milk Production Department has brought in many more producers of milk. Many visits were paid to ascertain the condition of premises and the methods used. This is a duty still in the hands of the Council and no agreement

with the Wholesale Dairies is entered into till the Council is satisfied that conditions of production are satisfactory. A certain relaxation of peace time standards had to be made where structural alterations were involved but in the greater number of cases the necessary improvements were gradually carried out.

Meat.

Central slaughtering has taken the place of the individual slaughterhouses. The slaughtering establishment is not within the Council's area.

Systematic inspections are made from time to time of all butchers' shops, fish shops, bake shops, common lodging houses, milk and meat purveyors, fellmongers' premises etc.

Particulars of slaughterhouses -

	In Dec. 1933.
Registered	12
Licensed	8
Total	20

Food and Drugs.

The food and drugs Acts are now jointly the concern of the Council and the County Council.

In conclusion I consider the annual report quite satisfactory.

Infectious diseases are more numberous than last year but comparatively speaking are not at all excessive.

A large amount of work has been done in connection with the War but, in spite of this, a large number of improvements have been carried out.

The children in the District are being immunised in accordance with Public Health Regulations.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Angus Fairweather M.B.

(ANGUS FAIRWEATHER, M.B.)

Medical Officer of Health.

FAIRCOTE, POCKLINGTON.